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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN THE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

PAUL C. RENTMEESTER, BRADY J. MORONEY  
AND JOEL C. VANDERZEE

U.S. SERIAL NO: UNKNOWN

GROUP: UNKNOWN

FILED: CONCURRENTLY

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: MAGNETICALLY OVERRIDDEN FLOW  
CONTROL DEVICE

1c690 U.S. PTO  
09/738089  
12/15/00

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La Crosse, Wisconsin  
December 15, 2000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The following patents are enclosed and discussed in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure.

U.S. Patent 3,495,620 to Raimondi et al. is directed to a magnetic relief valve in which a moveable valve element is magnetically held in a closed position to terminate fluid flow, and held in an open position to permit fluid flow. Fluid pressure through the valve moves a valve member 18 away from a stationary inlet magnet when the pressure overcomes the magnetic force and allows the moveable valve member to contact an outlet magnet 25. When the fluid pressure drops, the magnetic force of the inlet magnet 19 returns the moveable valve member 18 to the closed position. Effectively, the valve member toggles the two magnets based on fluid pressure and the magnets are used to retain the valve member in position.

U.S. Patent 4,328,684 to Leo shows a screw compressor expander with a magnetic coupling between the compressor and expander rotors.

U.S. Patent 5,316,263 to Mino is directed to an electronic expansion valve with a magnetic rotor. A hall element detects a position change of the magnet rotor as detection impulses and the number of detection impulses is used to detect abnormalities.

U.S. Patent 5,236,011 to Casada et al. attaches one or more sources of constant magnetic field to the outside of a valve body at key locations. The DC magnetic fields from the magnets travel through the valve body and valve internals and are detected at one or more key locations with a magnetic field sensor such as a gaussmeter with a hall effect probe. With a change in position of a valve internal part, there is a corresponding alteration in the magnetic field in the valve, and this change in the magnetic field is detected by the gaussmeter to provide an indication of the motion of the valve internals.

Copies of applicant's U.S. Patent 4,928,494 to Glamm and U.S. Patent 5,417,083 to Eber were incorporated by reference in the application and are included here for the benefit of the Examiner.

As noted, these patents are submitted solely to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure and are not considered unusually relevant to the claimed invention.

Respectfully Submitted,



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